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U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Paper No. 19

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

In re AKIHIRO GOTO et al.)	
)	
Application No. 09/937,220)	Appeal No. 2003-1943
)	
Filed: January 8, 2004)	
)	

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST TO RESET HEARING DATE

An oral hearing before a merits panel of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences has been set for January 8, 2004. The notice setting the hearing was mailed to counsel on October 21, 2003 (Paper No. 17). The date counsel received the notice is not apparent from the record. On November 7, 2003, a facsimile letter was received (Paper No. 18) wherein counsel requested that the oral hearing be rescheduled. The request has been granted.

According to counsel:

[Counsel], attorney of record for [Appeal No. 2003-1943, is] scheduled to travel to Japan from January 1, 2004 through March 1, 2004. The purpose of this trip is to move [counsel's] family to Japan for a period of two months, during which [counsel and his wife] plan to secure a more permanent residence, and take care of various related issues. In addition, [counsel's] daughter will prepare for and take entrance examinations

for schools in Japan. In view of the timing for [counsel's] family to travel to Japan, it is very difficult to change the above schedule.

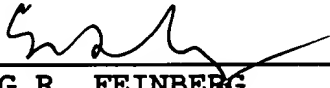
Further, due to [counsel's] heavy involvement in this case, including the instant appeal, it would be inefficient and disadvantageous to the appellant if another attorney in [counsel's] office were to take on the oral hearing on the scheduled date.

In view of the above, postponement of the appeal hearing is respectfully solicited.

For the reasons given above, it is

Ordered that the request to reschedule the hearing to a date after January 8, 2004, is granted, and that a new date for the oral hearing will be sent to counsel.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
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